

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SEP 26 1955

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Planning and Drawing Bureau (Planovací a kreslicí kancelar) at Opava	DATE DISTR.	27 October 1955	
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. On 7 January 1952, Czech and German nationals imprisoned in various Czech prisons, who possessed technical skills, were transferred to Leopoldov Prison. In this prison, a planning and drawing bureau was organized in one of the prison workshops, where selected prisoners worked on plans and drawings for the Dubnica Plant.¹ At this workshop work was performed on parts of a blueprint of a cannon, intended for production at Dubnica, and on blueprints for the production line for the manufacture of ammunition in the Blansko armament factory.

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2. In all, about 30 prisoners worked in this section at Leopoldov. In January 1953, these technicians were transferred to Opava (N 49-57, E 17-55). There they were joined by other prisoners possessing similar skills, until they numbered about 300 in all. The prisoners were divided and placed in two separate prisons at Opava. These were:

a. A former military garrison on Krnovska ulice, where technical offices were organized for the prisoners. The technical work here was divided into the following technical sections:

- (1) Shipbuilding, headed by Dipl. Eng. Heinrich Grimm.
- (2) Banaky Project (mining), headed by Dipl. Eng. Pavlu (fnu).
- (3) Hutni Project (steel plants), headed by Dipl. Eng. Josef Cvanda.
- (4) Aeropal (aircraft production).
- (5) Agrostroj (agricultural machinery).
- (6) Electric Power.

b. The Krajska Veznice (Regional Prison), located on Lidicka ulice, where a technical group was organized in the following sections:

- (1) The Skoda Works.

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- (2) Stavba Project (construction of buildings and roads).
- (3) Chemical section (disbanded in 1954 for unknown reasons).
- (4) Tatra Works.

3. The Hutni Project (mining) section was concerned with the construction plans for the Kuncice steel plant.² This plant is now in operation with two steel furnaces. In constructing the Kuncice plant, the original blueprints intended for the Trinec Steel Plant were used.

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A copy of these plans was made on linen cloth, and instructions were issued to make an exceptionally neat copy. Some technical changes were made on the original blueprint. The linen cloth used for the drawings had Polish watermarks on it.⁴

4. Planning was being done for a rolling mill for delivery. However, this work was performed only by Czech prisoners. ⁵

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1. Comment: Presumably one of the Skoda armament factories at Dubnica nad Vahom.

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2. Comment: The reference is to the New Klement Gottwald foundry in Kuncice.

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3. Comment: The reference is to the V. M. Molotov Iron Works in Trinec.

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4. Comment: the Czech government was making blueprints for the Nowa Huta Steel Plant located near Krakow. Poland

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